

Wintergreen Performing Arts  
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(not for publication)

### A Satie Piano Marathon at DelFosse Vineyards

For immediate release

Wintergreen, VA – Beginning Sunday, July 13, 2008 at 6:00 pm and ending Monday, July 14 at 7:00 pm, Wintergreen Performing Arts will present *Vexations* by French composer Erik Satie. As its name suggests, *Vexations* challenges the listener's patience. It also challenges, as it was intended to do, the very meaning of music. *Vexations* is a 90-second piano piece intended to be repeated 840 times. This musical marathon will be performed by artists and students from the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival as well as local pianists. The site of Satie's whimsical challenge is DelFosse Vineyards & Winery in Faber, VA.

In a note to performers, Satie stated that "... it would be advisable to prepare oneself beforehand, in the deepest silence, by serious immobilities." One might add that it requires serious immobilities to listen to the 25-hour piece as well. Anyone who successfully listens to the entire performance will receive a FlexPack of tickets to Summer Music Festival events, valued at \$180.

In addition to *Vexations*, Wintergreen Performing Arts offers an afternoon and evening of French music on Bastille Day, July 14. Beginning at 4:00 pm, there will be open rehearsals by students of the Wintergreen Summer Music Academy, food vendors and wine tastings, the ceremonial singing of La Marseillaise and, at 7:00 pm, the Concours DelFosse. The Concours is a spirited competition for Wintergreen Summer Music Academy students with prizes determined by three professional musicians. In the best American Idol tradition, two of the prizes will be determined by the audience's vote.

The Satie and Bastille Day events are part of Wintergreen Performing Arts' 2008 theme: "Old World, New World – Spain, France, Italy, and The Americas – A Journey of Discovery." The "Journey of Discovery" includes chamber music concerts, solo recitals, orchestral concerts, a series of informal seminars, cooking classes, wine tastings, plays, cabaret performances – more than 150 events in all. Ticket information and a full schedule of activities can be found at [www.wintergreenperformingarts.org](http://www.wintergreenperformingarts.org).

**Located in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, Wintergreen Performing Arts, Inc. (WPAI), under the Artistic and Executive direction of Larry Alan Smith, is a non-profit organization that produces a high-quality summer music festival featuring symphonic and chamber concerts, as well as other performing arts programs throughout the year. Education is a major part of the organization's mission, reflected both in the Wintergreen Summer Music Academy and in outreach programs for those living in the surrounding area. By attracting first-rate musicians to participate as performers and educators, WPAI strives to enrich the lives of all—residents and visitors alike—who share the unique Wintergreen experience.**

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